# Adapting to the "New Normal" & the Path Forward

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Congratulations!





# 2020 NTERNAT OF THE NUR THE MIDWIF



### **MISSION**

Improve and expand community health practices for underserved populations, especially women and children, through collaborative action and learning.

### **VISION**

Communities where everyone can attain health and well-being.

CORE Group is a champion for the global health community; we convene global community health professionals to share evidence, and best practices, and then translate these into the real world with a direct impact.

# A hybrid membership consortium

- Over 9000 global health practitioners in our International Community Health Network
- Over 175 organizations, including NGOs, academic institutions, private sector, foundations, and Civil society organizations globally
- Students and individual members
- Networks of networks, reaching over 250,000+ worldwide



Advancing community health worldwide.

### WHAT WE DO



Advancing community health worldwide.

We strengthen programmatic impact through collaboration and research

We facilitate learning, capacity strengthening, and knowledge management

We optimize preparedness and response in emergencies & outbreaks

We Lead & Influence Global Policies, Guidelines, and Strategies

### GET INVOLVED



Advancing community health worldwide.

Join a Working Group and/or Interest Group

### WORKING GROUPS

- Systems For Health
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Nutrition
- Reproductive, Maternal, Child, Newborn,
   & Adolescent Health
- Social & Behavior Change

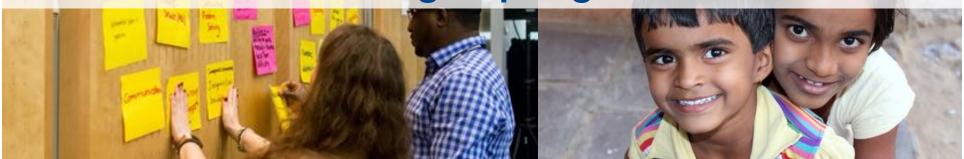
**Young Professionals Network** 

### **INTEREST GROUPS**

- Humanitarian-Development
   Task Force
- One Health
- Disability Inclusive Technical Advisory Group
- Non-communicable Diseases

**MENTORSHIP PROGRAM** 

### Join at coregroup.org/connect



### CORE Group Polio Project Nigeria

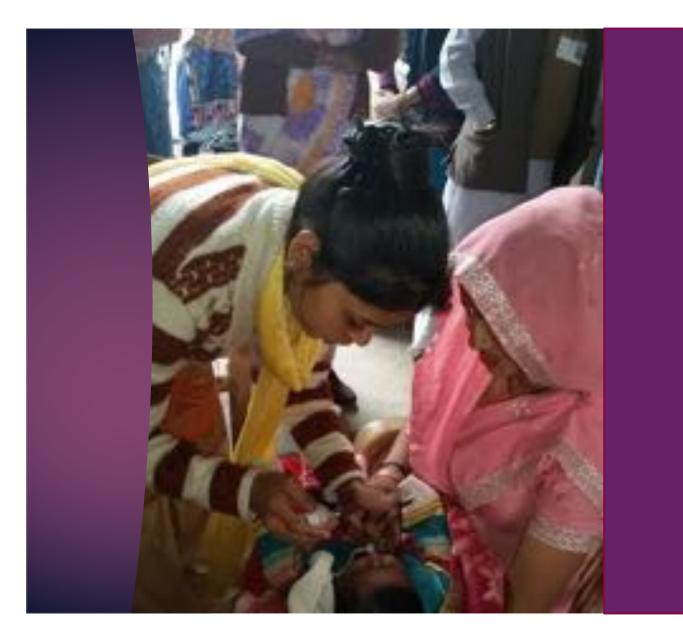
2 Community
Health
Mobilizers for
Polio
Surveillance
and
Immunization



Nairobi Informal Settlements

Water Collection Point

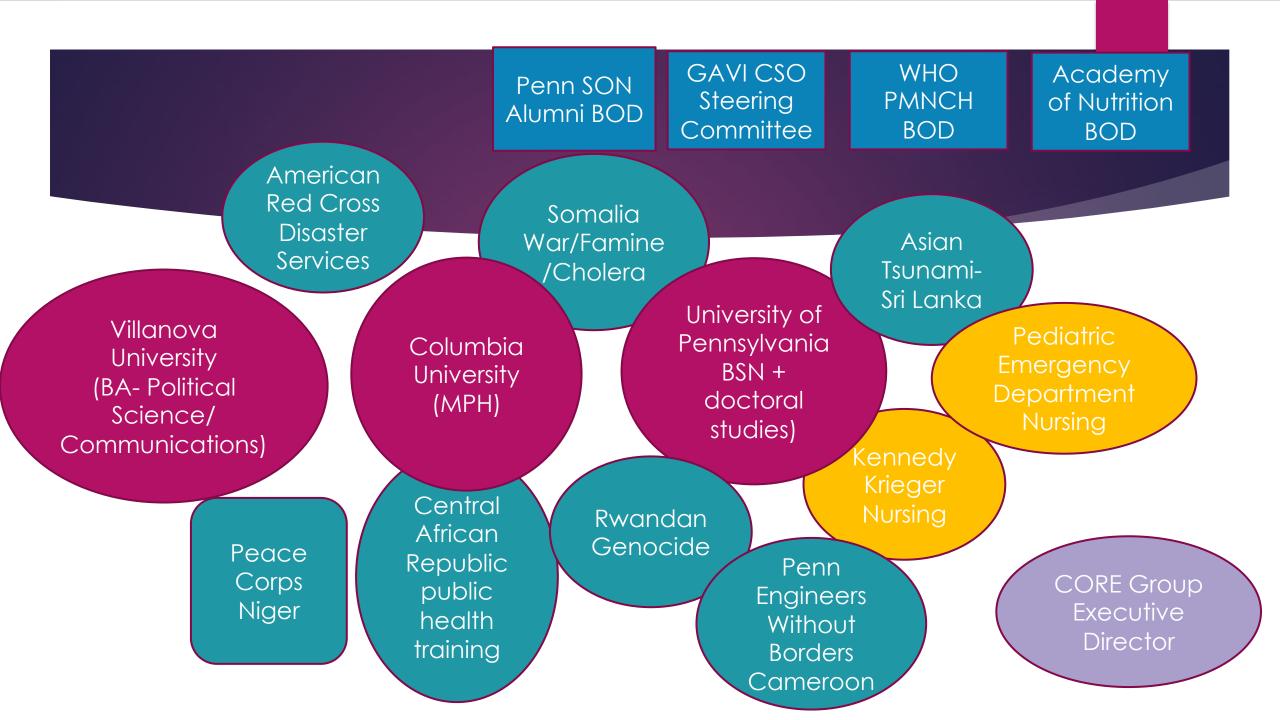






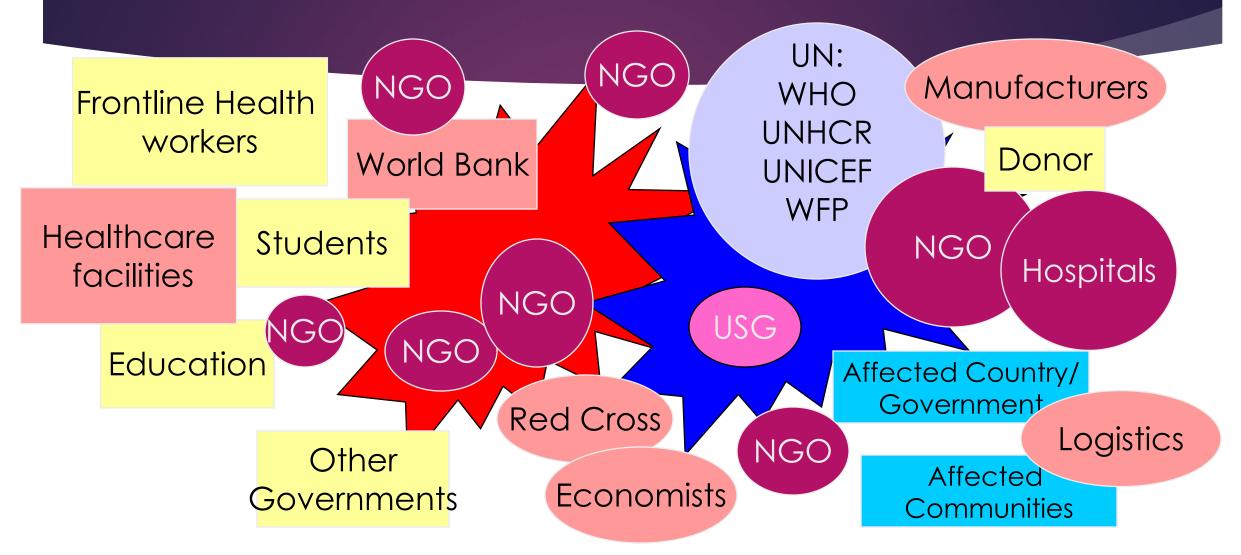








# The Fog of COVID-19 Response



2018 Bangkok, Thailand

Prince
Mahidol
Award
Conference
(PMAC) on
Pandemics



How has COVID-19 Changed the Job Landscape?

Companies are still hiring interns and consultants, as well as some new grads, but cautiously

Delays in some hiring until situation is better understood, Slow onboarding

Companies experiencing financial strains- mergers, government assistance, grant restrictions and reallocations

Switch to remote work and finding creative methods to motivate staff, be effective operationally, mentor staff, and deal with mental health concerns

### What are the needs with COVID-19

Over 135 organizations contributed to a multiconsortium Program & Operations Impact Assessment in April 2020

Over 90 organizations contributed to Rapid Needs Assessment in March

Regular feedback on weekly coordination calls, weekly meetings with country teams, etc.



# Supply Chain and Procurement

- ▶ PPE needs at country-level are a priority concern
- Reproductive Health supplies are not reaching many facilities and communities
- Some countries are seeing a delay or slowdown of procurement supplies and/or delivery (Nicaragua HIV and TB, Mozambique malaria, Ethiopia water schemes and infrastructure)
- Non-US embassies in DC requesting NGO assistance for countries, but now PPE being diverted to USA needs
- Challenges in supply of essential medicines and vaccines (including antiretroviral drugs and treatment for malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea)

### **Health & Nutrition Services**

- Safety of clinical staff and disruption of services a concern, with lack of PPE
- Hospitals and clinics are unprepared to treat patients that need to be quarantined
- ▶ Need home-based services; how to offer with restrictions and risk
- Due to new export regulations of PPE; Health supplies that were earmarked for countries, are now being held for US
- Lack of transportation services and restrictions on population mobility is complicating service delivery and exacerbating health problems
- Overall lack of RMNCAH basic services- long term impact of this will be devastating
- ▶ Impact of child health- well visits, ECD, supplemental feeding, etc.- delays and disruption
- Schools closings mean school meals are not being distributed or are distributed less frequently, due to mobility restrictions and other factors
- Refugee health, rural populations, urban settlements- lack of services and guidance on COVID 19 protocols for these populations
- ▶ People with Disabilities are being ignored, lack of services and messaging
- Mental health issues are rising due to lack of systems to deal with pandemic and mental health crisis as a result- governments and NGOs are trying to respond, but often overwhelmed.

# Communitybased Campaigns and Services

- Mass immunization campaigns halted
- Malaria LLIN BedNet distribution has halted
- Many concerned about HIV testing, education and prevention, as well as condom supply chain
- Education and house-to-house visits are suspended for routine health services; some countries are hosting COVID-19 mini-workshops with social distancing restrictions;
- Mental health issues are rising due to lack of systems to deal with pandemic and mental health crisis as a result- governments and NGOs are trying to respond, but often overwhelmed.
- NGOs have Stop orders, travel restrictions, as well as country regulations- projects and services are in limbo, MOH requesting assistance
- Meetings with Local leaders, religious leaders, government district and community officialsmany of these meetings stopped
- General lack of coordination and collaboration across sectors

# Research, Monitoring & Evaluation

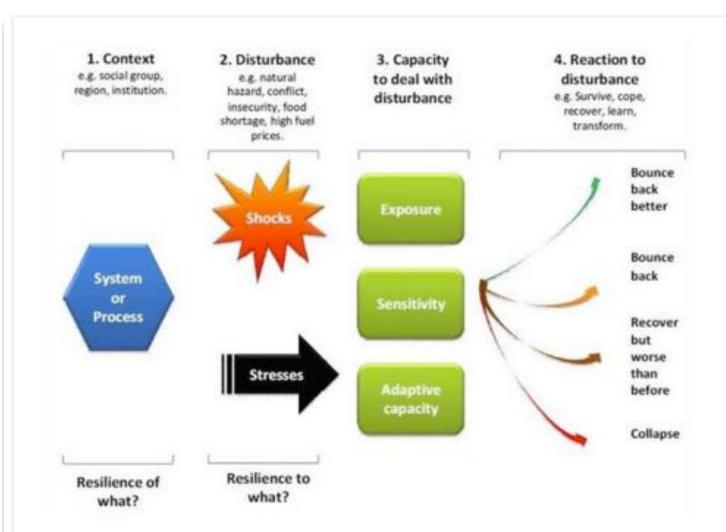
- Fellows have been sent back to the USA; training, research and capacity building of individuals and scientists impacted
- Impact evaluations, analysis, and research dissemination of USAID/OFDA/USG programs have been suspended or cancelled; Accurate data for existing programs and COVID19 response is an issue.

Supply chain analysis of micronutrients in health care system in Bangladesh is now cancelled and impacts food security.

Community-based dissemination of reproductive health research in Nepal has been stalled because of movement restrictions put in place because of covid19. This means that messages about accessing sexual and reproductive health services are not reaching women/girls in schools, community leaders, and municipal government officials.

Final Evaluation of adolescent RMNCH intervention in DRC interrupted (results may suffer from recall due to COVID timing)

- Vaccine Research and Development halted
- Field research suspended



# Resiliency & Adaptation

Source: DFID"s resilience framework (2011) Source: Department for International Development (DFID) (2011) Defining Disaster Resilience: A DFID Approach Paper. DFID: London

# What can you do now?

- ► Enhance your Skills & Training- Languages, Finances, Management, Technical, Clinical, Technology, Innovation, Focused technical skill
- Consider Short-term opportunities,
   Consultancies, Paid/un-paid internships,
   Volunteer
- Take additional certifications and professional training on-line
- Seek Good Mentors and Advisors
- Research the Organizations and their Mandates/Values; Look at their Board of Directors and Leadership- is it Diverse?
- ► Take Security and Disaster classes (<u>https://www.disasterready.org/</u>)
- Explore Youth/YP slots on Boards of Directors
- Explore YP opportunities (Women Deliver)

### What can you do in the immediate future/on-going?

Speak Out and Speak up- with diplomacy and tact Gender Transformative Action Be a Champion and Commit to Women, LGBTQI, Poor, Disabled, most vulnerable

Have Ethical Actions and follow a Code of Conduct

Work with Local partners

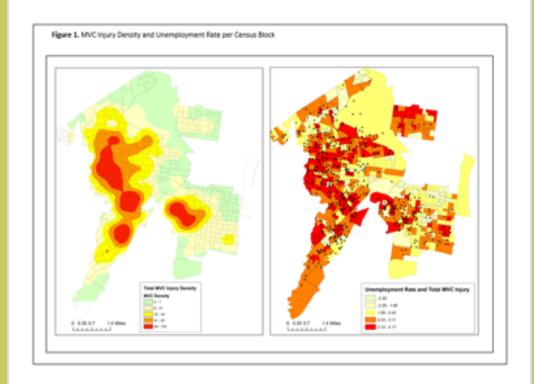
Collaborate, don't re-invent or duplicate

Demonstrate Integrity with Funding

Accountability to Impact and Quality

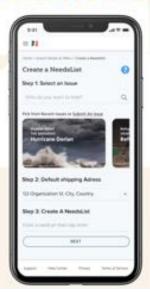
Balance research and intervention

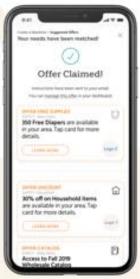
Ensure personal safety and security

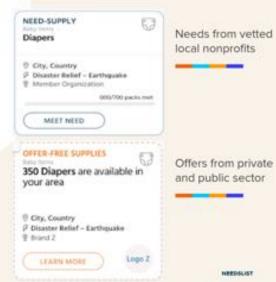


### Technology & "Innovation"

### 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY, LOCALLY POWERED, REAL-TIME Crisis Coordination Software Demo







Community Voice and Assessment from the Beginning



Penn Engineers Without Borders in Cameroon

# Key takeaways

QUALITY

CHALLENGE
\*\*GIVE
RATIONALE

**PASSIONATE** 

DATA/EVIDENCE/ GAPS

Dream BIGchange the NORM!

**ASK QUESTIONS** 

Local Partners

### Sites for Global Health Jobs/Resources

- https://coregroup.org/jobs-internships/
- http://www.globalhealth.org/
- https://www.interaction.org/careers/#ngo-job-board
- http://unjobs.org
- http://cfusion.sph.emory.edu/PHEC/phec.cfm
- http://www.devnetjobs.org/
- https://www.idealist.org/en/
- www.reliefweb.int
- https://www.womeningh.org/ https://www.womeningh.org/operation-50-50

# Take Care of your Mental Health

- Physical exercise and meditation/Selfcare
- Make a schedule that includes mental health wellness, physical time, creative time
- Seek counseling- telehealth
- Watch alcohol intake
- 1 creative, 1 physical, 1 self-care, 1 stimulating mentally, 1 fun



#### Physical Resilience and Mindfulness:

Staying active, maintaining a healthy immune system, rest and recovery, and using healthy nutrition.



#### Mental Resilience:

Outlook and perspectives, optimising brain functioning, self-belief, and adopting a growth mindset.



#### **Emotional Resilience:**

Self-awareness, emotional regulation, and realistic optimism.



#### Social Resilience:

Social connections and empathy.



#### Spiritual Resilience:

Aligning with values and beliefs, meaning, engagement, purpose, and connection.

# Onwards!!

Thank you! Stay safe, stay sane!

Congratulations to the Graduates!

